

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to lymphotoxin- $\beta$ , a lymphocyte membrane type protein. This protein is found on the surface of a number of cells, including 5 phorbol ester (PMA) stimulated T cell hybridoma U-40.17 cells. This invention also relates to complexes formed between lymphotoxin- $\beta$  and other peptides such as lymphotoxin- $\alpha$  and to complexes comprising multiple subunits of lymphotoxin- $\beta$ . These 10 proteins and complexes are useful for binding LT- $\alpha$  formed within the cell on the cell surface where the LT- $\alpha$ /LT- $\beta$  complex may act as an inflammation regulating agent, a tumor growth inhibiting agent, a T cell inhibiting agent, a T cell activating agent, an 15 autoimmune disease regulating agent, or an HIV inhibiting agent. Furthermore, the antitumor activity of the LT- $\alpha$ /LT- $\beta$  complex may be delivered to tumor cells by tumor infiltrating lymphocytes (TILs) transfected with the gene for LT- $\beta$ .